

Appl. No. : **10/608,233**
Filed : **June 30, 2003**

REMARKS

This amendment is responsive to the September 25, 2006 final Office Action. Before this amendment, Claims 18-19 and 56-66 were pending. With this amendment, Claims 18, 56, 57, 60, and 62-65 are amended, and new Claims 67-79 are added. No new matter is added by these amendments. After entry of this amendment, Claims 18, 19, and 56-79 are pending for examination.

Claim Amendments

Applicants amend Claims 57 and 62 to correct the spelling of “birefringence.” Applicants amend the antecedent basis of dependent Claims 63 and 64 to properly reflect the “plurality of *regions*” recited in independent Claim 62.

Applicants have further amended Claims 18, 56, 57, 60, and 62-65.

Rejected Claims

Claims 18 and 19 are rejected as anticipated by Inaba, et al. (US 6,738,549). As described above, Claim 18 has been amended. Applicants respectfully submit that Inaba does not disclose at least all of the limitations in Claims 18 and 19, as amended, and that Claims 18 and 19 are in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of these rejections.

Applicants have added new Claims 67-69, which depend from independent Claim 18 and include all the limitations of Claim 18 in addition to other limitations. Applicants respectfully submit that dependent Claims 67-69 are in condition for allowance.

Allowed Claims

Applicants thank the Examiner for allowing Claims 56-66. Applicants point out that Claims 56, 57, 60, and 62-65 have been amended in this paper. Nevertheless, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 56-66 remain in condition for allowance.

Applicants have added new Claims 70-79, which depend from certain of the allowed claims. Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 70-79 are in condition for allowance.

Information Disclosure Statements

An Information Disclosure Statement was submitted by Applicants on June 30, 2006 and was considered by the Examiner on July 5, 2006 according to the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) records. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to provide Applicants with a copy of the initialed PTO/SB/08 Equivalent. Additionally, Applicants note that an

Appl. No. : **10/608,233**
Filed : **June 30, 2003**

Information Disclosure Statement citing five references is also submitted herewith. Applicants respectfully request that these references be considered by the Examiner.

If there are any remaining issues, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the phone number below.

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: February 26, 2007

By: /Steven P. Ruden/
Steven P. Ruden, Ph.D.
Registration No. 53,538
Attorney of Record
Customer No. 20,995
(949) 760-0404

3466186
022607